



Minutes

Meeting of June 10–11, 2008

JUNE 10

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Olivia K. Singh, Chair
John P. Perez, Vice Chair
Joseph P. Bishop
George T. Caplan
Lawrence T. Geraty
George W. Nickel
Ralph R. Pesqueira
Carolyn Russell
H. Eric Schockman
Bruce D. Varner
Howard Welinsky

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Melinda Guzman
Hugo Morales

CALL TO ORDER

Commission Chair Olivia Singh called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

CALL OF THE ROLL

Executive Secretary Anna Gomez called roll. Present: Singh, Perez, Bishop, Geraty, Pesqueira, Russell, and Welinsky. Commissioner Varner was present by telephone. Commissioner Nickel joined the meeting by telephone at 9:11 a.m. Commissioner Caplan joined the meeting by telephone at 9:15 a.m. Absent: Guzman, Morales.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the minutes of the March 2008 meeting. Commissioner Schockman seconded. The Commission approved the minutes unanimously.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Singh reported that the Community Colleges Board of Governors has appointed Carolyn Russell as their representative to the Commission, replacing Deborah Malumed. The Regents of the University of California appointed Bonnie Reiss as their Alternate Commissioner, replacing Odessa Johnson, effective July 1. Commissioner Bishop is stepping down as a student commissioner some time after September. A replacement for Commissioner Kenneth Noonan from the State Board of Education should be named at the end of the summer.

Chair Singh announced that Commissioner Morales recently married and is expecting twins. Finally, in response to Commissioner Schockman's request, an advisory committee on disability and GLBT issues will meet during the summer.

Chair Singh then asked for reports from commissioners. There being none, she thanked them for "being involved with so many other activities that are directly involved with education."

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REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Commission Executive Director Murray J. Haberman reported that staff have talked with Commissioners Bishop and Perez about advocacy for teachers, and Commissioner Perez said he would like to see the development of a peer assistance and review program for teachers led by teachers, not administrators.

In April, Vice Chair Perez and Director Haberman testified before the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Education Finance regarding the Commission's budget for 2008–09.

Director Haberman introduced a new staff member, Mallory Angeli, and a student intern, Kate Abbott.

Director Haberman then discussed some recent meetings. Director Haberman attended the state Chamber of Commerce's Host Breakfast, where the Governor talked about the budget, securitizing the California State Lottery, and concerns about bills that may be harmful to business.

Early in June, Director Haberman, Commissioner Morales, and staff member Karen Humphrey met with Fresno City Mayor Alan Autry and Deputy Mayor Jeff Eben to discuss higher education issues facing the Central Valley.

Director Haberman reported that he attended the annual Education Policy Institute Retention Conference, held this year in San Diego, and presented a keynote address on college affordability.

RECENT STAFF PRODUCTS

Director Haberman presented the Commission with the newly redesigned Portfolio of Publications and asked them to share copies of the portfolio with education leaders, policymakers, and others.

Staff member Ryan Fuller presented fact sheets on transfer rates in each Assembly and Senate district. The fact sheets show ethnic composition of community college students and the percentage of students transferring to UC and CSU, broken down by racial/ethnic group. Mr. Fuller said he is working to develop maps that display transfer rates for racial/ethnic groups.

Commissioners discussed a variety of issues related to transfer. These included the way that transfer can help increase production of bachelor's degrees in California, coordinating the transfer process between community colleges and universities, the availability of space for eligible students, and transfer to out-of-state and independent colleges.

Staff members Kevin Woolfork and Ryan Fuller then made a presentation on the 2008 Fiscal Profiles report, which will present a variety of data related to higher education financing. Mr. Woolfork said he and Mr. Fuller are continuing work on the report and will present a draft at the September meeting. They are working closely with the education systems and state administrative agencies to assure that the report accurately reflects the state's and the systems' budget situations.

OTHER CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

Director Haberman announced that he will attend the annual SHEEO conference in Boston. He noted that several Commission staff members will attend the SHEEO professional development conference in San Diego in August.

Director Haberman also discussed a meeting he had with Alex Gonzalez, President of CSU Sacramento. In that meeting, one topic discussed was the manner in which individual campuses are affected by the state budget.

REPORT OF THE STATUTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Todd Greenspan, Chair of the Statutory Advisory Committee, reported news from, the systems. Jon Whitmore, president of Texas Tech, has been appointed president of San Jose State University. CSU was recently awarded a three-year grant of \$600,000 from the Stuart Foundation to fund system and intersegmental efforts to ensure access to higher education for foster youth. CSU's new professional sciences master's program was highlighted at a conference of the National Governors Association's Center for Best Practices.

At UC, the new president, Mark Yudof, will start June 16. Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef of UC Davis has announced he is stepping down in June 2009. The Regents have named Timothy White, president at University of Idaho, as the new chancellor of UC Riverside.

Mr. Greenspan noted that the statutory advisory committee had some concerns with the draft Commission report *Who Can Afford It? How Rising Costs Are Making College Unaffordable For Working Families*. He said that he would present these concerns to the Commission after the report has been presented as an agenda item.

UPDATE ON THE COMMISSION'S UNIVERSITY ELIGIBILITY STUDY FOR THE CLASS OF 2007

Chair Singh called Adrian Griffin, Assistant Director for Research and Policy Development, to present an update on the Commission's University Eligibility Study. Dr. Griffin said that the study team was nearing completion of the data collection phase. Data collection will continue until July when the analysis phase will begin.

Commissioner Schockman asked whether private high schools were included in the study. Dr. Griffin explained that this had been considered as a possibility in past eligibility studies. The Commission has not proceeded with this approach because of the difficulty of collecting data from private high schools where there might be privacy concerns. Dr. Griffin added that the recommendations in the state's 1960 Master Plan for Higher Education expressed the eligibility pool as a percentage of California public high school graduates.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Howard Welinsky reported that the Governmental Relations Committee met May 22 by teleconference. The committee took action on five bills where the position recommended by staff was changed. Vice Chair Perez moved to adopt the minutes of the committee meeting. Commissioner Schockman seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

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MAY REVISION TO THE PROPOSED 2007-08 STATE BUDGET: SUMMARY

Staff member Kevin Woolfork reported that the state Senate and Assembly budget subcommittee hearings have ended and the Legislature had convened a conference committee to arrive at a final budget. He noted that the subcommittees had adopted much of what the Governor's May Revision had proposed for higher education. However, two significant exceptions were that the Legislature's budget: (1) funds the competitive Cal Grant program that was strongly supported by the Commission and others, but not included in the Governor's budget; and (2) reduces budget-balancing reductions on the community colleges and Hastings College of the Law.

Mr. Woolfork said that budget subcommittees in both houses pulled most capital outlay projects that were to be funded by a November 2008 education bond because of a lack of agreement on the bond and over concerns that voters may not approve new bonds. Both the Assembly and Senate budgets appear to overspend available resources by billions of dollars. This could lead to additional spending reductions, rescheduling of services or programs, revenue enhancement, increased debt, or other actions to balance the budget, such as the Governor's proposal to securitize future state lottery revenues.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE, JUNE 2008

Legislative Director Julia Blair discussed the changes in position on five bills approved at the Governmental Relations Committee meeting, and two additional new bills.

The committee voted to adopt the staff-recommended position on the following:

- AB 2458 (Walters, early graduation incentive) – Inactive, drop from *Watch* on priority list.
- AB 2489 (Arambula, Ed. Code maintenance) – Change from *Support if amended* to *Support*.
- SB 1585 (Padilla, community college transfer) – Change from *Watch* to *Support*.
- AB 1821 (Portantino, Cal Grant B criteria) – Change from *Watch* to *Support*.
- SB 1457 (Steinberg, CalSAVE program) – Change from *Watch* to *Support*.
- AB 2296 (Mullin, animal researchers) – Change from *Support if amended* to *Support*.

Commissioner Welinsky moved to adopt the changes that were discussed at the Governmental Relations Committee. Commissioner Pesqueira seconded. Commissioner Schockman expressed concern about supporting a bill opposed by the ACLU and Humane Society. Mr. Greenspan explained that the parties were opposed to provisions in the bill that would allow exceptions to the Public Records Act, but those were removed and other wording was changed. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Blair noted the remaining items with changes in the staff-recommended position:

- AB 1409 (Portantino, concurrent enrollment) – Change from *Watch* to *Support*. Commissioner Welinsky moved to change the position. Commissioner Russell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Woolfork discussed recent changes to two bills affecting the Commission:

- SB 325 (Scott) – Language has been amended to designate the Commission as a central repository of information for a new accountability structure. The Commission would review data collected by the systems, and use that data for reports called for by the Legislative Analyst’s Office. The Commission will serve on a technical advisory committee to help refine data and determine the benefit and usefulness of that data. No action was taken on this item.
- SB 361 (Scott) – This bill sets priorities for workload responsibilities of the Commission in times of insufficient resources. The bill was revised to list specific statutory reporting requirements to be deleted. The bill also lists four priority areas: program review, facilities review, data system and the Improving Teacher Quality program. No action was taken on this item.

Ms. Blair presented the staff-recommended position on two other bills:

- SB 1679 (Florez, State Lottery Endowment Act) – *Support*. Chair Singh deferred a vote until the following day.
- AB 2517 (Portantino, teacher credentialing) – *Watch*. Commissioner Welinsky moved to take a *Watch* position. Vice Chair Perez seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON THE COMMISSION’S IMPROVING TEACHER QUALITY GRANTS PROGRAM

Staff member Karen Humphrey gave an update on the 2008 grant process and a review of the Improving Teacher Quality (ITQ) program by staff from the U.S. Department of Education. The reviewers indicated that project monitoring should be increased. Ms. Humphrey has not yet received the reviewers’ final report but she is developing a more intensive site visiting schedule than in 2007. She is investigating monitoring protocols and procedures in other states and has reinstated mid-year grant reports to help resolve any concerns.

Ms. Humphrey said that preliminary planning is underway for the 2009 grants, which also will probably focus on the achievement gap. In addition, ITQ and information technology staff members are discussing improvements to the ITQ website.

Ms. Humphrey attended Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O’Connell’s meeting of education school deans in late May. Participants discussed culturally responsive teaching and the need to build partnerships to improve education.

Commissioner Welinsky asked how much money ITQ awards each year. Ms. Humphrey said the program receives about \$8 million each year for the Commission to distribute. Overall, California receives about \$330 million annually under Title II-A funding, most of which goes through CDE to fund formula grants to school districts. She added that the No Child Left Behind Act will probably be extended for another year because Congress is not likely to pass a reauthorization bill. It is also expected that funding levels may climb slowly.

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RECESS

Chair Singh called a recess for lunch at 11:58 a.m.

RECONVENE

Chair Singh reconvened the meeting at 1:38 p.m.

WHO CAN AFFORD IT? HOW RISING COSTS ARE MAKING COLLEGE UNAFFORDABLE FOR WORKING FAMILIES

Staff member Jessika Jones presented a paper comparing college costs with incomes from 1975 to 2005. The report discusses the way that increasing college costs have affected families at different income levels.

Vice Chair Perez said that this report was the most significant staff product that he had seen in the two-and-a-half years that he had been on the Commission.

Commissioner Shockman asked about the figures on the cost of books and supplies. Ms. Jones said that some of the figures in the report are costs as a percentage of total costs. Although the cost of books and supplies has increased faster than general inflation, other components of costs have increased even faster, so the cost of books as a share of total costs has not increased.

Ms. Jones added that rising college costs have hit lower- and middle-income families particularly hard. Working students are no longer able to cover the majority of their college expenses by part-time work, as they had in previous decades.

Ms. Jones mentioned concerns over the credit crunch and predatory lending. She added that rising college costs may have a negative effect on retention and completion. This creates barriers to access for people who are averse to accumulating debt and will increase educational and economic stratification.

Commissioner Schockman suggested researching financial aid and cost data at private universities, which Ms. Jones said may be possible.

Todd Greenspan, Director of UC's Educational Relations Department, requested to address the Commission. He said that 87% of low-income UC students (under \$22,000 annual income) receive financial aid or scholarships, and the average award is \$13,495. UC estimates a student must find \$11,000 per year from parent contribution, student work and loans. He suggested that staff report the net costs of college rather than stated costs.

Commissioner Welinsky moved to approve the report. Vice Chair Perez seconded. The report was approved unanimously.

INDICATORS OF PREPARATION FOR COLLEGE

Staff members Stacy Wilson, Jessika Jones, and Ryan Fuller discussed their work in developing a statistical procedure to measure student preparation for college. Student preparation is the only

goal in the performance assessment framework where the Commission has not yet adopted precise measures.

Dr. Wilson and Mr. Fuller have developed a measure that will help show how preparation for college varies between ethnic groups and between schools. This measure is based on scores on the California Standards Test Program. Preliminary results indicate that this measure has the potential to be a more useful measure than a school's Academic Performance Index because it can be disaggregated by racial/ethnic group and gender. Mr. Fuller said the next step in the study is to assess how the measure can be used to monitor progress toward the goal of giving all students a high school education that prepares them for success at college.

No action was taken on this item.

PROGRAM PLANNING AND REVIEW TO PROMOTE RESPONSIVENESS TO PUBLIC NEEDS, 2007-08

Staff member Stacy Wilson discussed two recommendations in the program planning and review annual report. Dr. Wilson said the recommendations were drafted to open a dialogue between the Commission and the systems on how best to prioritize plans for new programs in times of severe budget constraints and limited state funding of higher education.

Todd Greenspan addressed the Commission. He said that the Commission already has an intersegmental program advisory committee and that faculty could advise Commission staff on a case-by-case basis, which would alleviate the need for a formal faculty advisory committee as proposed by Dr. Wilson. Dr. Wilson said the purpose of the advisory committee would be to involve faculty members in a more general discussion of program needs and workforce priorities.

No action was taken on this item. Dr. Wilson said that the report will be presented at the September Commission as an action item.

PRESENTATION BY FORMER STATE SENATOR JOHN VASCONCELLOS

Chair Singh introduced Mr. Vasconcellos, who wrote the legislation that established the Commission. Mr. Vasconcellos spoke about the need for updating the 1960 Master Plan for Higher Education, and his new organization called The Vasconcellos Project, which aims to mentor young policymakers and bring a "new look at politics that is humanistic, creative, passionate about life."

Mr. Vasconcellos said one of the organization's projects is called Trust in Politics. One of their efforts is the Al Alquist–Ed Davis California Capitol Collaboration Project, which created the bipartisan California Former Legislators Alumni Group (CalFLAG) to collaborate with legislators and mentor new legislators. The group is hosting six dinners for the 36 first-year Assemblymembers.

He discussed the need to update the Master Plan for Higher Education for its 50th anniversary. The Vasconcellos Project has partnered with student associations of each higher education system. The plan is called "Empowering Students to Lead the Way Toward a 21st Century Integrated Education." It is designed to be completed and enacted by the time new legislators leave office. Mr. Vasconcellos also highlighted the importance of attracting various groups to be in-

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volved in planning for the state's future. These include workforce agencies, the Commission, business leaders, legislators, minority communities, and seniors.

Commissioner Schockman asked who will be the next leader in higher education planning. Mr. Vasconcellos said he has been talking with elected officials to see how they can work together.

Commissioner Welinsky asked about college affordability and declining General Fund support for higher education over the past 40 years, and how to approach the reversal of this trend. Mr. Vasconcellos said it's vital to get support from the business community, seniors, and minority communities. He talked about building up public recognition of the investment in higher education. He believes that people will realize that if we don't invest more in higher education, our economy is going to falter.

Director Haberman thanked Mr. Vasconcellos for his passion in revitalizing the public's support of higher education. Director Haberman mentioned how so few people in the Legislature have "institutional memory." Mr. Vasconcellos then talked about how experienced and retired legislators can mentor new legislators.

Finally, Jason Spencer, a Vasconcellos Project staff member, said he came to work with the organization after serving in the Legislature for a few years. He said he is excited about projects that can encourage people to work on long-range planning.

RECESS

There being no further business, Chair Singh recessed the June 10 meeting at 3:57 p.m.

JUNE 11**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Olivia K. Singh, Chair
John P. Perez, Vice Chair
Joseph P. Bishop
Lawrence T. Geraty
Hugo Morales
Ralph R. Pesqueira
Carolyn Russell
H. Eric Schockman
Howard Welinsky

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

George T. Caplan
Melinda Guzman
George W. Nickel
Bruce D. Varner

RECONVENE

Chair Singh called the June 11, 2008, meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

CALL OF THE ROLL

Executive Secretary Anna Gomez called the roll. Commissioners present: Chair Singh, Vice Chair Perez, Bishop, Geraty, Morales, Pesqueira, Russell, Schockman, Welinsky. Absent: Caplan, Guzman, Nickel, Varner.

**PRESENTATION BY MARILYN MCGRATH,
CPEC REPRESENTATIVE FOR COMMISSION
ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING**

Ms. McGrath reported on a variety of projects conducted by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC). She answered questions from commissioners on teacher demand over the next decade. The CTC expects shortages in math, science and special education. She said there is a need for a multi-subject credential for math and science teachers and a

need for more incentives to retain and recruit teachers. She added that some cities had proposed ballot measures for parcel taxes to be used for teacher salaries.

Shannon Vogel, a liaison to the California Community Colleges Academic Senate and a nursing instructor at Butte Community College, addressed the Commission. Ms. Vogel said during weekly student orientations, the number of new students who said they are interested in teaching has declined a great deal. She would support writing a resolution to the Academic Senate on this matter.

**PRESENTATION BY SARA LUNDQUIST, SANTA ANA COLLEGE, AND CLAUDIA MARTINEZ,
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA**

Dr. Lundquist and Ms. Martinez discussed ENLACE's (Engaging Latino Communities for Education) projects to increase the number of Latinos in higher education, strengthen parental and community engagement, improve academic achievement, and advance local, state and national education policies.

ENLACE is a multimillion dollar initiative of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The California project has two partnerships: "Padres Promotores" at Santa Ana College, and "Padres Adelante" at UC Santa Barbara.

Some policy goals include increasing the number of Latino faculty, improve and reform the Master Plan for Higher Education, and support for undocumented students. A related effort called ARCHES-ENLACE (Alliance for Regional Collaboratives to Heighten Educational Success) awards grants to community-business-education partnerships to improve academic achievement, increase college-going rates and improve the community college transfer rate.

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OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Welinsky requested a discussion on SB 1679. The bill would establish the “California Higher Education Endowment” intended to increase college-going and degree-earning. It would be governed by a six-member commission. Commissioner Welinsky moved to adopt the staff-recommended *Support* position. Vice Chair Perez seconded.

Commissioner Bishop said he would prefer a position of *Support if amended* and had two suggestions. First, the endowment board’s representation should include the California Community Colleges, the independent sector, a student, one practitioner each from CSU, UC, and the California Department of Education. Second, the bill should include specific language that endowment funding would expand state funding for current academic preparation programs.

The Commissioners discussed the merits of Commissioner Bishop’s recommendation. Commissioner Welinsky accepted an amendment to the motion, retaining the support position, but adding a directive that Commission staff send a letter to Senator Florez with Commissioner Bishop’s proposed amendments. Chair Singh called a vote and the motion carried with the following votes:

Yes – Singh, Perez, Schockman, Welinsky. No – 0. Abstain – Bishop, Geraty, Russell.

Commissioner Welinsky moved to adopt Item 4, Legislative Update. Commissioner Schockman seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM 6: WHO CAN AFFORD IT?

Commissioner Schockman requested to change his vote on Item 6 from Yes to Abstain. The change did not change the outcome of adopting the report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.